Soo TSA inventory audit

Introduction

The Ministry of Forests conducts an inventory of each timber supply area (TSA) in British Columbia every 10 to 30 years (using standards and procedures developed by the Resources Inventory Program). These inventory updates reflect changes in the timber volume due to growth and to depletions from harvesting and natural causes.

This report presents the results of an inventory audit performed within the Soo TSA, which is located in the south-east portion of the Vancouver Forest Region. It extends along the Lillooet River to Harrison Lake and along the Cheakamus River to Howe Sound. It is bounded by Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 38 on the west. It surrounds Garibaldi Provincial Park. The TSA covers approximately 880, 000 hectares and is administered from the Squamish Forest District office in Squamish.

Purpose of the audit and application of the results

It is often asked, "How accurate is the current inventory?" To answer this important question, the Ministry of Forests has developed an inventory audit methodology specifically designed to test the overall accuracy of estimates of the total standing volume in each timber supply area.

This inventory audit methodology entails sampling three primary components of the inventory: mature forests, immature forests, and non-forest areas.

The objective of the inventory audit program is to help identify TFLs or TSAs where the forest inventory needs attention. Enough samples are taken to ensure statistically reliable results for the TSA as a whole.

The amount of data collected, however, is not sufficient to make statistically reliable conclusions about specific strata within the TSA. For example, any overall differences, highlighted by the audit, could result from problems: with one tree species, from part of the land base (such as high elevation rather than lower elevation areas), from one age group of forest stands, or from a combination of these and other factors. As a consequence, general audit results cannot be used to adjust information for timber harvesting purposes since the audited area represents only a small portion of the total forested area in the TSA.

The audits provide information that may be useful to the Chief Forester when determining the allowable annual cut—offering a general assessment of the uncertainty associated with mature timber volumes, immature site index, and the non-forest classification. However, the audit results cannot justifiably be used to make specific adjustments to growth and yield and other information used in timber supply analyses and allowable annual cut determinations.

Methods

Current inventory

There are 37 TSAs in British Columbia, varying in size from approximately 70 000 hectares to 13 million hectares. Inventories of each TSA are conducted through a multistage process. Polygons are first delineated from 1:15 000-scale aerial photographs. Photo-interpretation is then used to produce data on a number of attributes for each polygon. These attributes include species composition, stand height, age, and crown closure. Timber volume is then estimated indirectly using the photo-interpreted variables and an empirical yield model.

To keep estimates current, inventories are regularly updated to account for forest growth and for depletions due to harvesting, fire, and the impact of insects and disease damage. Empirical yield models, such as the Ministry of Forests Variable Density Yield Prediction (VDYP) computer model, are used to update the inventory for forest growth. Field visitation, satellite imagery, and aerial photographs may be used to update the inventory for depletions.

Inventory audit procedures

The inventory audit tests three components of the current inventory. The first component is the mature forested areas (forest stands older than 60 years). The inventory audit tests the accuracy of the mature timber volume as well as stand attributes (age, height and species composition). The second component tested is immature stands (younger than 60 years but older than the silvicultural classification of free growing). The audit tests the accuracy of the site growth potential (site index) and species composition assignment for these stands. The third component tested is the area classified as non-forest in the inventory, which includes areas such as lakes, gravel pits, and alpine meadows. The audit tests the accuracy of the photo-interpreted classification for this component.

Mature component assessment criteria

To test the mature component of the inventory, the existing inventory's estimate of the mean volume per hectare for the

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TSA (the inventory volume), is compared with a new estimate of the mean mature volume per hectare obtained from the audit samples (the audit volume).

The difference between these two estimates is called the total bias. A test is conducted on this bias to determine if it is statistically significant. This test establishes whether there are detectable differences between the audit volume estimate and the inventory volume estimate, for the total forested area of the TSA.

Further analyses may be conducted to determine if the specific source of bias within the inventory is one of the following:

- *classification bias*: This is caused by incorrectly estimating the polygon attributes; or
- *model bias*: This is caused by poor prediction from the yield model, which was developed for large areas of the province and was not designed for specific management units.

The analysis to determine the source of bias uses an estimate of the mean mature volume per hectare for the TSA called the ground attribute volume. This is calculated from audit sample attributes (stocking class and stand table estimates of species composition and stocking, and ground-based averages of height and age), along with crown closure taken from the original map label, using the yield prediction model. The difference between the ground attribute volume estimate and the audit volume estimate approximates the bias associated with the yield model. The difference between the audit volume estimate and the inventory volume estimate not accounted for by the model bias approximates the bias associated with the inventory classification attributes. Once the source is identified, further analyses may be done on the inventory classification attributes or the yield model itself.

Immature component assessment criteria

Accuracy of the inventory classification for immature stands is tested by examining the site index and species composition assignment. Since the immature forest stand site index provides an estimate of site productivity, its accuracy affects the projection of long-term harvest levels.

Data gathered is examined to determine how closely the audit and inventory site indices match for individual samples, and to explore potential trends.

Non-forest component assessment criteria

The audit test for the non-forest component of the inventory assesses the accuracy of the non-forest classification assignment. An air photo interpreter certified by the Ministry of Forests compares the non-forest inventory classification to a suitably-scaled forest cover aerial photograph. Classification accuracy is rated using a point scoring scheme to determine an overall accuracy percentage. The acceptance criteria for this test is 85% or higher.

Soo TSA audit sampling procedures

The Soo TSA sample used updated maps based on an inventory originally conducted between 1991 and 1993. For the mature forested component of the inventory audit within each stratum, a list of all polygons identified on the inventory maps was produced and sorted on a number of stand characteristics (site quality, age, and species group). Polygons were systematically selected from this list by a process designed to produce a sample representative of the target population.

Up to 4 full-measure prism plots and 5 count plots were established within each of the 50 sample polygons. The plots were located systematically, using a square grid and a random start point. The grid interval varied with polygon size. To reduce sample costs for large or irregular polygons, a portion of the polygon was randomly selected for ground sampling. A total of about 200 full-measure and 250 count plots were established. Field data collection and compilation followed Ministry of Forests cruising and cruise compilation procedures. The objective was to obtain audit volumes that were comparable (in terms of utilization standards and merchantability definitions) to the inventory volumes produced from the VDYP model. Note that 3 of the original 50 samples were excluded from the analysis. These 3 samples fell within the boundaries of newly created parks, hence they were outside the TSA.

The VDYP system produces net merchantable volume per hectare defined as stem volume inside bark of all live trees excluding a 10-cm diameter inside-bark top, a 30-cm-high stump, and decay (as estimated from Ministry loss factors). Dead potential and veteran trees are not included in the VDYP estimates. This volume is calculated for a utilization standard defined as all live trees of 17.5+ cm dbh. When considering the audit results, it should be noted that there are some differences between the utilization standards applied in the audit and those used operationally.

The audit volume estimates were then compared to the inventory volume estimates (from VDYP) to test the validity of the current inventory. A paired sample t-test was used to test for significant differences. The precision of the inventory volume estimates—how well each inventory volume estimate corresponds to the audit volume estimate on a sample-by-sample basis—was assessed by measuring the statistical correlation. The data was then post-stratified to detect trends related to the operable and inoperable forested land base distribution of the sampled polygons.

From the immature forested component, a random sample of 20 polygons was selected for sampling. Up to 9 inventory ground calls were established within each of the 20 sample polygons. The plots were located systematically, using a square grid and a random start point, similar to the mature volume component. A total of about 180 ground calls were established and data collection followed the standard Ministry of Forests inventory ground call procedures.

Time and resources did not permit completion of the assessment of the non-forest component of the inventory.

Inventory audit results

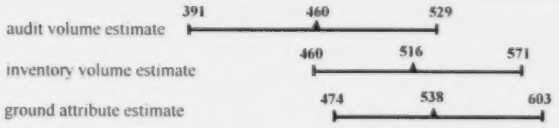
Analysis of mature volumes

Overall results of the inventory audit for mature volume in the total forested area of the Soo TSA are summarized at the 17.5+ cm dbh utilization limit in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Statistics for the audit volume and inventory volume estimates at 17.5+ cm dbh utilization (net decay), Soo TSA

	Audit vol. estimate	Inventory vol. estimate	Ground Attribute vol. estimate
Number of samples	47	47	46
Mean (m^3/ha)	460	516	538
Coefficient of variation (%)	51	37	40
Standard error	34.25	27.8	32.0
Sampling error (%)	15.0	10.9	12.0
95% confidence interval	391–529	460–571	474-603
Correlation coefficient		r = 0.596	
Ratio of means (audit/inventory):		0.89	

Bar graph representation of 95% confidence intervals (in m^3/ha):



The correlation coefficient of 0.596 for the audit and inventory estimates indicates a fairly good relationship among the individual samples in this stratum. There is a 56 m^3/ha difference between the mean inventory estimate for mature volume (516 m^3/ha) and the audit estimate (460 m^3/ha). A paired sample *t-test* did not detect a statistically significant difference, 19 times out of 20, for the mature component of the total forested area of the Soo TSA. The 95% confidence interval for the mean paired difference is -112 to +2 m^3/ha.

Although there was no statistically significant difference between the two estimates, the ground attribute volume was calculated from the VDYP model so that the underlying sources of bias could be identified. Ground height was not available for one sample; therefore the ground attribute volume estimates are based on 46 samples. The estimated mean ground attribute volume is 538 m^3/ha. The difference between the mean ground attribute volume (538 m^3/ha) and the mean audit volume (460 m^3/ha) is 78 m^3/ha. The difference between the mean inventory volume and the mean ground attribute volume is 22 m^3/ha. This suggests that the majority of the bias in the inventory is associated with the VDYP yield model.

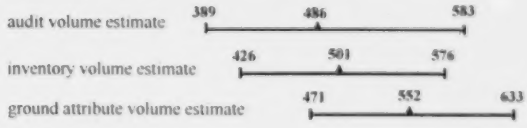
Analysis of operable and inoperable volumes

To provide audit results more likely to be applicable to the timber supply planning process, an approximation was made of the forested areas considered currently available for timber harvesting (operable areas). The audit results were post-stratified based on this approximation. Results of the inventory audit for samples in the operable forested areas in the Soo TSA are presented in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Statistics for the audit volume and inventory volume estimates at 17.5+ cm dbh utilization (net decay), operable forested areas, Soo TSA

	Audit vol. estimate	Inventory vol. estimate	Ground Attribute vol. Estimate
Number of samples	29	29	29
Mean (m3/ha)	486	501	552
Coefficient of variation (%)	53	39	39
Standard error	47.2	36.65	39.5
Sampling error (%)	20.0	15.0	14.7
95% confidence interval	389–583	426–576	471-633
Correlation coefficient		r = 0.643	
Ratio of means (audit/inventory):		0.97	

Bar graph representation of 95% confidence intervals (in m^3/ha):



For the 29 samples located within the operable forested area, the mean audit volume is 486 m^3/ha and mean inventory volume is 501 m^3/ha. The difference of 15 m^3/ha between these two estimates for the mature operable forested area in the Soo TSA is not statistically significant, 19 times out of 20. The 95% confidence interval for the mean paired difference is -90 to +61 m^3/ha.

The ground attribute volume for the operable samples was calculated from the VDYP model to determine the source of the bias. The estimate of mean ground attribute volume was 552 m^3/ha. The difference between the mean ground attribute volume and the mean audit volume is 66 m^3/ha. The difference between the mean ground attribute

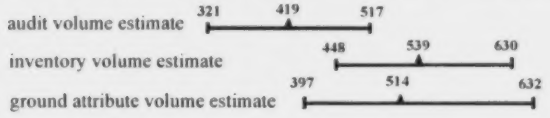
volume and the mean audit volume is 51 m3/ha. Although the VDYP yield model and the inventory classification attributes each contribute significantly to the total bias, these component biases are almost completely offsetting. As a result of these compensating biases, the total bias in the operable appears relatively small.

There were 18 audit samples that were located within the inoperable (i.e. not currently available for timber harvesting) forested area. The results of the statistical analysis of the audit for the inoperable forested area are presented in Table 3.

TABLE 3. Statistics for the audit volume, inventory volume, and ground attribute volume estimates at 17.5+ cm dbh utilization (net decay), inoperable forested areas, Soo TSA

	Audit volume estimate	Inventory volume estimate	Ground volume estimate
Number of samples	18	18	17
Mean (m3/ha)	419	539	514
Coefficient of variation (%)	47	34	45
Standard error	46.44	42.94	55.51
Sampling error (%)	23.4	16.8	22.9
95% confidence interval	321-517	448-630	397-632
Correlation coefficient	r = 0.571		
Ratio of means (audit/inventory):	0.78		

Bar graph representation of 95% confidence intervals (in m^3/ha):



For the 18 samples located within the inoperable forested area, the mean audit volume is 419 m^3/ha and mean inventory volume is 539 m^3/ha. There is a significant difference between the audit and the inventory volume. Analysis of the ground attribute volume for the inoperable area suggests that the majority of the total bias is associated with the VDYP yield model. However because of the relatively small sample size and the high variability associated with this sample, any conclusions regarding the inoperable forested area must be viewed with caution.

Analysis of immature inventory classification

Out of 20 stands sampled in the field, the inventory correctly identified site index within ±5 m of the audit site index for 9 stands. The inventory site index was more than 5 m lower than the audit site index for 8 stands, and more than 5 m higher for 3 stands.

Analysis of non-forest inventory classification

Due to staff constraints and lack of funding, the non-forest classification, which is a minor component of the audit, was not completed.

Discussion and conclusions

The objective of the inventory audit in the Soo TSA was to assess the overall accuracy of the current (1991 to 1993) Ministry of Forests inventory. The mature and immature forest components were tested but time and resources did not permit assessment of the non-forest component.

Audit results for the mature component of the inventory for the Soo TSA suggest that the inventory is statistically acceptable, but borderline. Subsequent analysis of post-stratified data shows a better level of acceptability in the operable forested area.

Audit results for the immature component of the inventory suggest an acceptable level of accuracy for site index assignment in young stands. However, there appears to be a trend to underestimate site index.

Glossary

accuracy: A measure of how close an estimate is to the true value.

allowable annual cut: The rate of timber harvesting specified for an area of land.

analysis unit: The basic building blocks around which inventory data and other information are organized for use in forest planning models, typically involving specific tree species or type groups that are further defined by site class, geographic location or similarity of management regimes.

bias: The quality of a measurement device or procedures that tends to result in a systematic misrepresentation of what is being measured.

coefficient of variation: A relative measure of variation within a population, calculated as the ratio between the standard deviation and the mean value.

confidence interval: The range of values within which the population parameter is expected to lie.

confidence level: The estimated probability that a population parameter lies within a given confidence interval.

correlation coefficient: A measure of the relationship between two variables. A value of 0 for the correlation coefficient indicates a random relationship, whereas a value of ±1 indicates a perfect positive or negative linear correspondence.

dead potential trees: Standing or down dead timber which is estimated to contain at least 50% of its original gross

volume in sound wood.

diameter at breast height (dbh): The stem diameter (outside-bark) of a tree measured at breast height (1.3 metres above the point of germination) to the nearest millimetre.

field visitations: Ground-level field procedures designed to provide physical verification of polygon inventory attributes.

free-growing (crop): A crop of healthy trees of a commercially valuable species, the growth of which is not impeded by competition from plants, shrubs, or other trees.

inoperable lands: Lands that are unsuited for timber production now and in the foreseeable future because of their topography, inaccessible location, low value of timber stands, or designation for uses incompatible with timber production.

mean: The average value of a set of observations.

polygon: A portion of land area, delineated on mid-scale aerial photographs, of "like" or uniform land cover type.

pre-inventory assessments: Inventory activities to evaluate the existing forest inventory as a basis for deciding whether to re-inventory or update the current inventory, and to document the existing inventory, maps, and photos to support the execution of the reinventory or update if required.

public sustained yield units (PSYU): A portion of a TSA; an area of Crown land, usually a natural topographic unit determined by drainage areas, managed for sustained yield by the Crown through the Ministry of Forests. It includes all Crown lands within the currently established boundaries of the unit and excludes federal lands, provincial parks, experimental forest reserves, gazetted watersheds and tree farm licenses.

ratio estimate: The ratio between two different estimates.

representative: The quality of a sample having the same characteristics as the population from which it is selected.

sampling: The process of selecting observations.

sampling error: The error attributed to sampling procedures.

significant difference: The results of a statistical test comparing either two or more estimates, or an estimate to a fixed value. If the difference is too large to be attributed to chance, the difference is said to be statistically significant.

site index: An expression of the forest site quality of a stand, at a specified age, based either on the site height, or on the top height, which is a more objective measure.

standard error: An expression of the absolute variability of an estimate.

standard deviation: A measure of the variation of the population.

timber supply analysis: An assessment of future timber supplies over long planning horizons (more than 200 years) by using timber supply models for different scenarios identified in the planning process.

timber supply area (TSA): An area defined by an established pattern of wood flow from management units to the primary timber-using industries.

tree farm license (TFL): Privately managed Sustained Yield Units; designed to enable owners of Crown-granted forest lands and old temporary tenures or the timber licenses which replace them, to combine these with enough unencumbered Crown land to form self-contained sustained yield management units.

variable density yield prediction (VDYP) model: An empirical yield-prediction system for natural stands based on data collected in temporary inventory sample plots (TSPs) and natural, permanent growth sample plots (PSPs). VDYP predicts volume (net decay) and diameters at four utilization levels using stand height, age, and density. The aerial approach uses crown closure as the density measure.

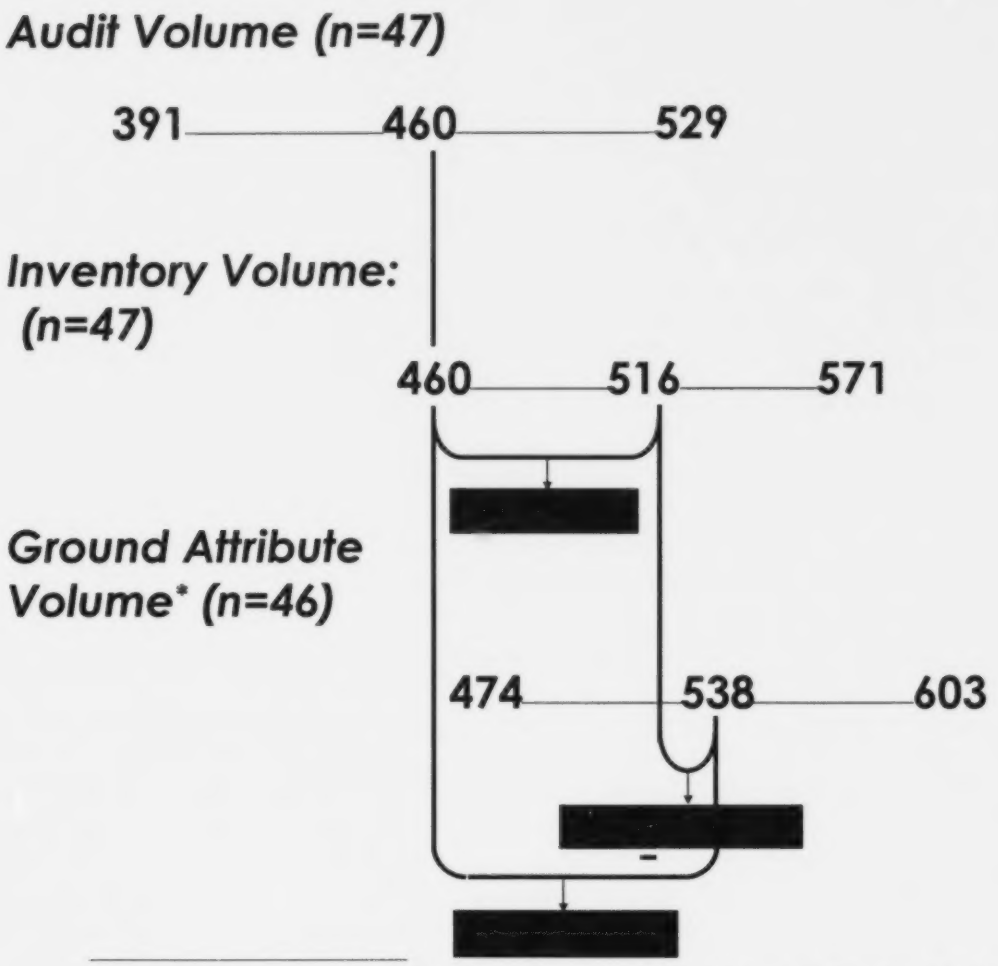
veteran trees: Mature living trees which are remnants of an older stand.

For more information

For more information or to obtain other inventory audit reports, contact: Director, Resources Inventory Branch, 722 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 3E7, Phone 250-387-1314, fax 250-387-5999, or visit our web site at http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/resinv/

October 2000

Inventory Audit Results:
Overview Soo TSA
June, 1998



* "Ground attribute" volume is calculated from audit sample attributes (i.e. "ground" attributes: stock and stand table estimates of species composition and stocking, and ground-based averages of top height and age), along with crown closure taken from the original map label, using the VDYP yield prediction model. The difference between the ground attribute volume estimate and the audit volume estimate *approximates* the bias associated with the yield model. The difference between the ground attribute volume estimate and the inventory volume estimate *approximates* the bias associated with the inventory classification attributes. These two bias components comprise the *total bias* in the inventory. Note that top height and age were not available for sample #4 hence mean ground attribute volume is based on 46 samples.

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) (n=47)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only/Tree Class 1,2)*

391 ——— **460** ——— **529** Audit Volume (15.0% sampling error)

460 ——— **516** ——— **571** Inventory Volume (map label attributes predicted in VDYP) (10.9% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95%

$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.89$

1.0 ↓

0.78 ——— **0.89** ——— **1.00**

** Since 1.0 is within the interval, the ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the audit volume and the inventory volume.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for all sample polygons

mean difference = -55.106 m^3/ha

p - value for mean difference = 0.059

**since p-value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG

There was a significant difference within GTG A and G.

(for GTG A: mean difference = -118.756; p-value = 0.043; n=9

for GTG G: mean difference = -228.857; p-value = 0.027; n=7)

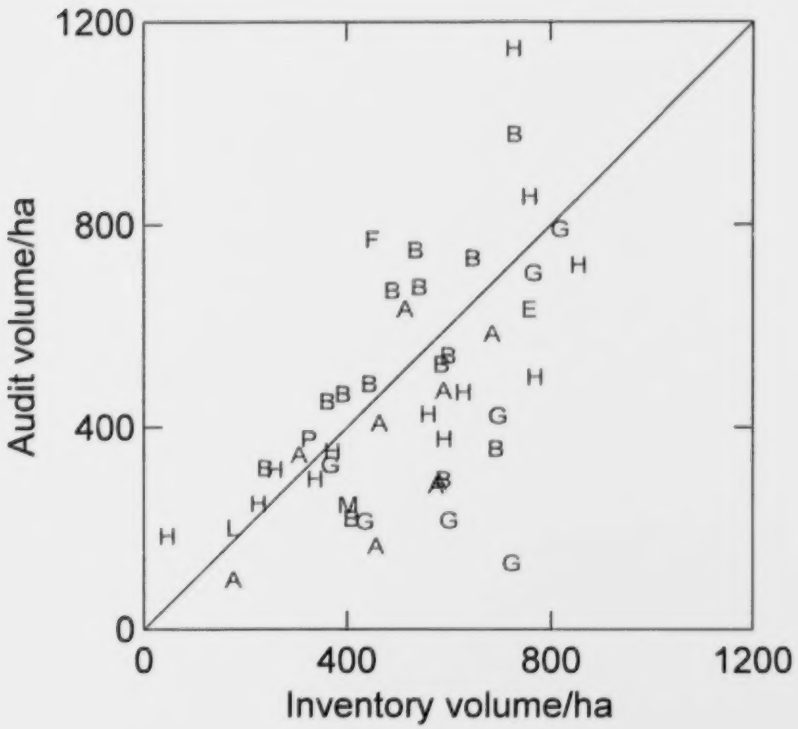
5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for all samples

Correlation co-efficient r = 0.596

p value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001

.: correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Ground Attribute Volume (Predicted in VDYP): *"VDYP model" bias (n=46*)*

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only /Tree class 1,2))*

394 ——— 464 ——— 534 Audit Volume (n=46) (15.1% sampling error)

474 ——— 538 ——— 603 Ground Attribute Volume (predicted in VDYP) (12.0% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95%

$$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average ground attribute volume predicted in VDYP}} = 0.86$$

1.0 ↓

0.78 ——— 0.86 ——— 0.94

* *Since 1.0 is outside the interval, the ratio indicates that there is a significant difference between the audit volume and the ground attribute volume.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% ($\alpha = 0.05$) for all sample polygons
mean difference = -74.185 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.002
**since p - value < α, the difference is significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG A and H.
(for GTG A: mean difference = -160.050; p-value = 0.020; n=8
for GTG H: mean difference = -115.592; p-value = 0.040; n=12)

5. Correlation @95%($\alpha = 0.05$) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.787
p - value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
∴ correlation is significant

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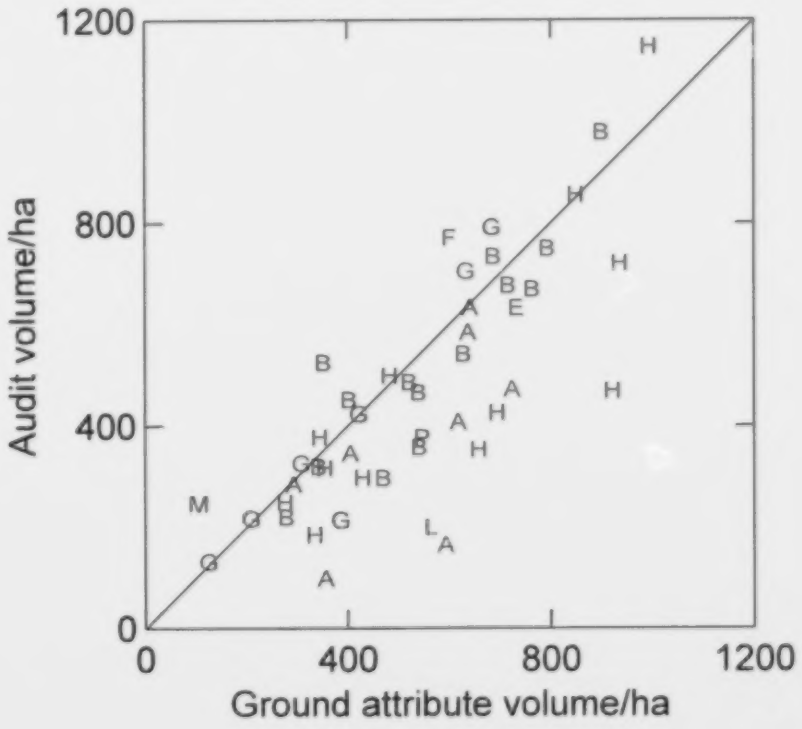
* Top height (and hence ground attribute volume) was not available for 1 sample. All statistics on this page are based on the 46 samples for which both an audit volume and a ground attribute volume was available.

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Ground Attribute Volume (Predicted in VDYP) by GTG
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



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G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Ground Attribute Volume (predicted in VDYP) vs. Inventory Volume (predicted in VDYP): *"Attribute" Bias (n=46*)*

1. Average volumes/ha and confidence interval @ 95%

(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only, Tree Class 1,2))

474 ——— 538 ——— 603

Ground Attribute Volume
(predicted in VDYP)
(12.0% sampling error)

457 ——— 514 ——— 571

Inventory Volume (n=46)
(map label attributes predicted in VDYP)
(11.1% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @ 95%

$$R = \frac{\text{average ground attribute volume (VDYP)}}{\text{average inventory volume (VDYP)}} = 1.05$$

1.0
↓

0.92 ——— 1.05 ——— 1.17

** The ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the ground attribute volume predicted in the VDYP and the inventory volume predicted in the VDYP.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% ($\alpha = 0.05$) for all sample polygons
mean difference = 24.144 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.439
**since p - value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG G.
(for GTG G: mean difference = -234.357; p-value = 0.022; n=7)

5. Correlation @95%($\alpha = 0.05$) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.481
p - value for correlation co-efficient = 0.001
.: correlation is significant

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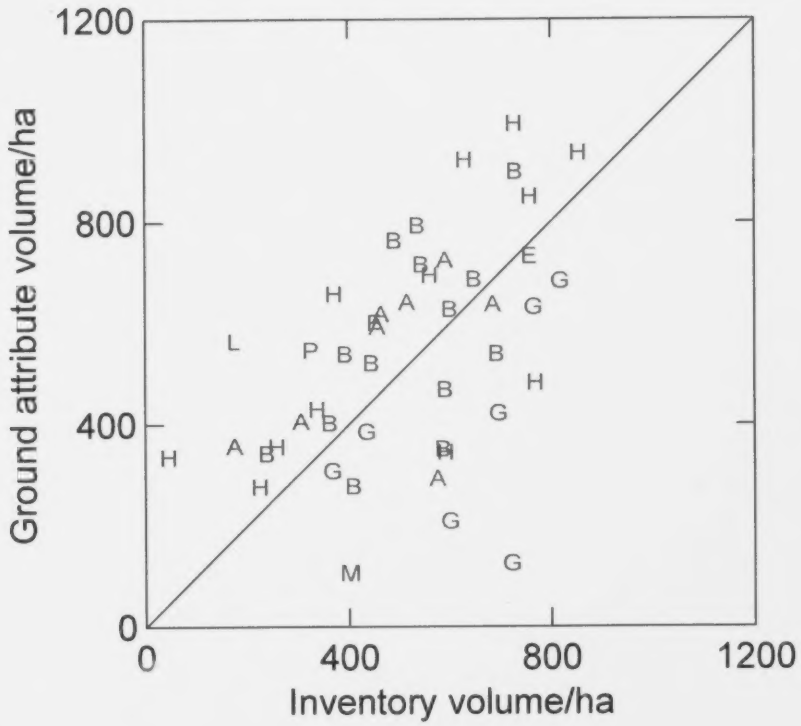
* Top height (and hence ground attribute volume) was not available for 1 sample. All statistics on this page are based on the 46 samples for which both an inventory volume and a ground attribute volume was available.

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Ground Attribute Volume (Predicted in VDYP) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) by GTG
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



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G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit (ground) height (m) vs. Inventory height (m) (n=46)*

1. Average heights and confidence interval @ 95%

29.1——31.6——34.2 Audit (ground) height (8.0% sampling error)

29.4——31.3——33.2 Inventory height (n=46) (6.1% sampling error)

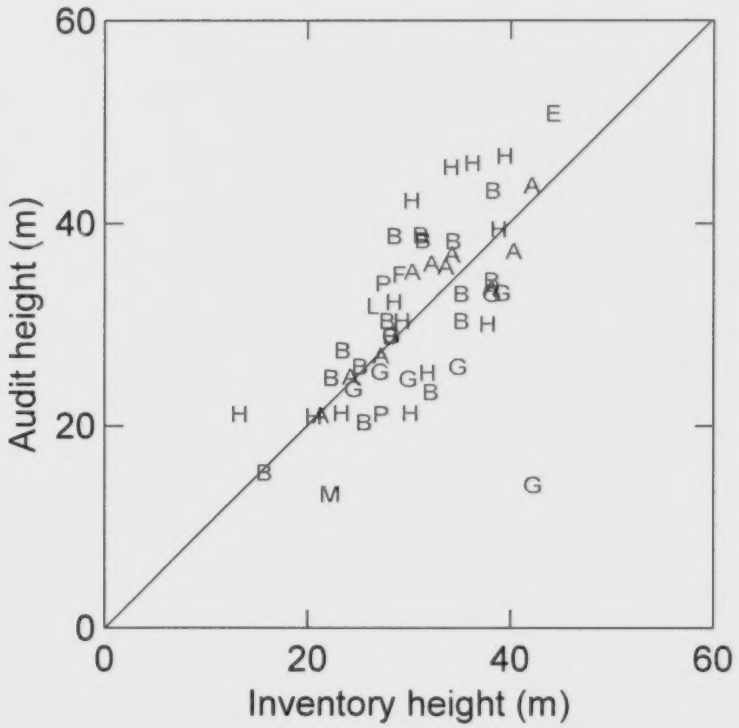
2. Paired T Test @ 95% ($\alpha = 0.05$) for all sample polygons (n=46)
mean difference = 0.34 m
p - value for mean difference = 0.747
**since p - value > α, the difference is not significant*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There were no significant differences within any of the GTGs.

4. Correlation @95%($\alpha = 0.05$) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.567
p - value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
∴ correlation is significant

* There are 46 samples for which there are both inventory attributes (age and height) and valid ground top height and age data.

Soo TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit (ground) height vs. Inventory height by GTG



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit (ground) age (yrs) vs. Inventory age (yrs) (n=46)*

1. Average ages and confidence interval @ 95%

171——————209——————246

Audit (ground) age
(17.9% sampling error)

193——————220——————247

Inventory age (n=46)
(12.2% sampling error)

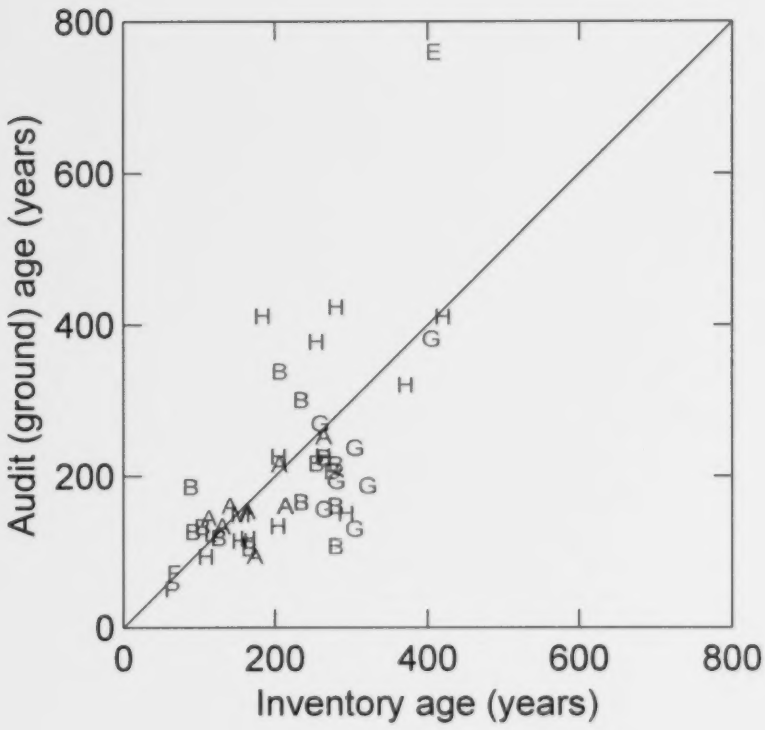
2. Paired T Test @ 95% ($\alpha = 0.05$) for all sample polygons (n=46)
mean difference = -11.4 years
p - value for mean difference = 0.428
**since p - value > α, the difference is not significant*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There were significant differences within GTG G.
(for GTG G: mean difference = -83.4 yrs; p - value = 0.013; n=7)

4. Correlation @95%($\alpha = 0.05$) for all samples (n=46)
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.647
p - value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
∴ correlation is significant

* There are 46 samples for which there are both inventory attributes (age and height) and valid ground top height and age data.

Soo TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit (ground) age vs. Inventory age by GTG



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) for Operable Samples (n=29)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only /Tree Class 1,2)*

389——————**486**——————**583** Audit Volume
(20.0% sampling error)

426——**501**——**576** Inventory Volume
(map label attributes predicted in VDYP)
(15.0% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95% (n=29)

$$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.97$$

1.0
↓

0.82——————**0.97**——————**1.12**

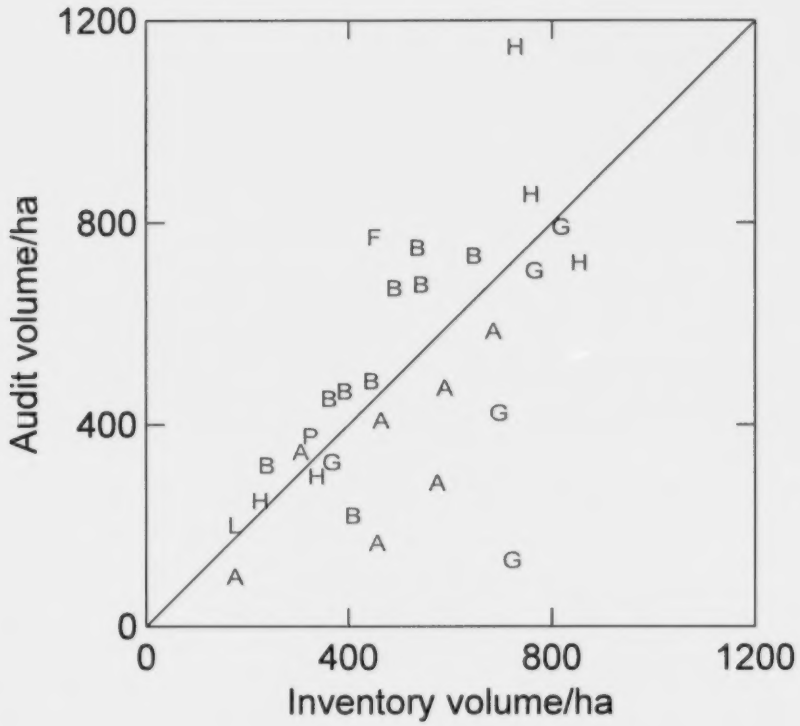
** Since 1.0 is within the interval, the ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the audit volume and the inventory volume for operable samples.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for operable samples (n=29)
mean difference = -14.741 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.692
**since p-value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for operable samples by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG A.
(for GTG A: mean difference = -128.357 m^3/ha; p - value = 0.032; n=7)

5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for operable samples (n=29)
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.643
p value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
.: correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
for Operable Samples
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) for Inoperable Samples (n=18)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only /Tree Class 1,2)*

321——————**419**——————**517** Audit Volume (23.4% sampling error)

448——————**539**——————**630** Inventory Volume (map label attributes predicted in VDYP) (16.8% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95% (n=18)

$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.78$

1.0 ↓

0.63——————**0.78**——————**0.93**

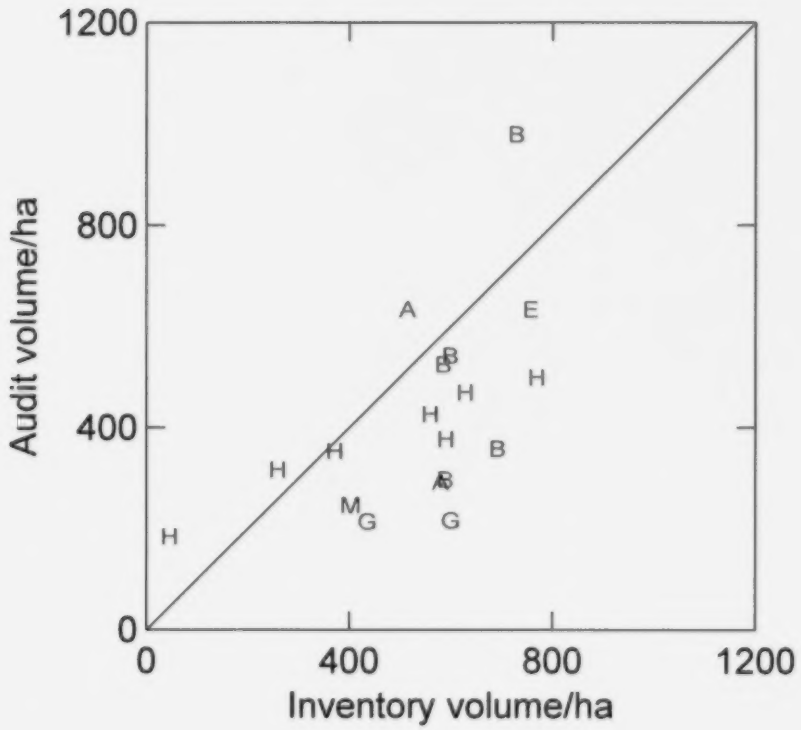
* *Since 1.0 is outside the interval, the ratio indicates that there is a significant difference between the audit volume and the inventory volume for inoperable samples.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for inoperable samples (n=18)
   mean difference = -120.14 m^3/ha
   p - value for mean difference = 0.010
   **since p-value < α, the difference is significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for inoperable samples by map label GTG
   There were no significant differences within any of the GTGs.

5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for inoperable samples (n=18)
   Correlation co-efficient r = 0.571
   p value for correlation co-efficient = 0.013
   ∴ correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
for Inoperable Samples
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) (compilation excluding audit plots that field crew judged "outside of polygon") (n=47)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only/Tree Class 1,2)*

391 ——— 460 ——— 529 Audit Volume (15.0% sampling error)

460 ——— 516 ——— 571 Inventory Volume (map label attributes predicted in VDYP) (10.9% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95%

$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.89$

1.0
↓
0.78 ——— 0.89 ——— 1.00

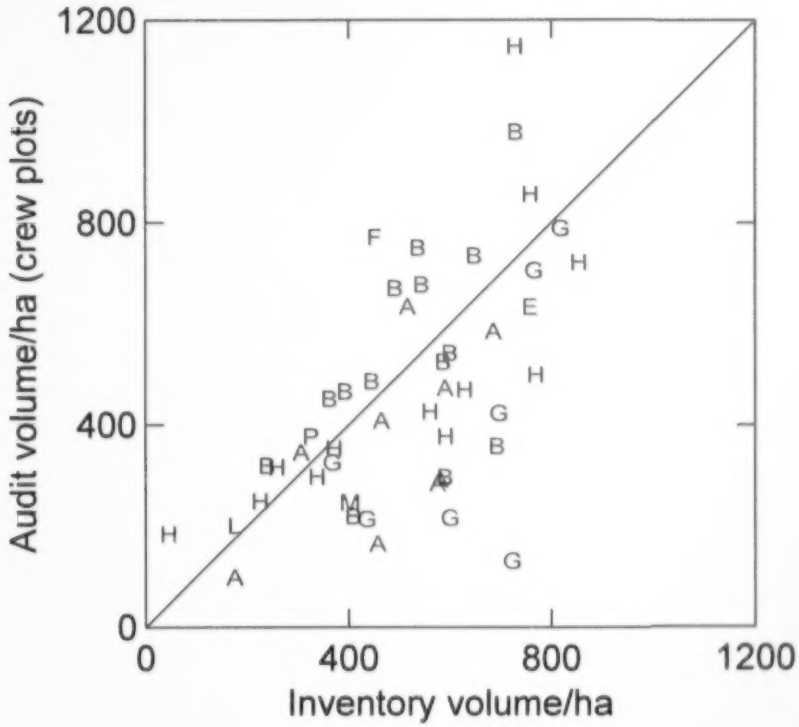
* *Since 1.0 is within the interval, the ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the audit volume (based on the crew compilation) and the inventory volume.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for all sample polygons
mean difference = -55.177 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.059
**since p-value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG A and G.
(for GTG A: mean difference = -118.756; p-value = 0.043; n=9
for GTG G: mean difference = -229.329; p-value = 0.027; n=7)

5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.596
p value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
∴ correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
(compilation excluding audit plots that field crew judged "outside of polygon")
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) (including 3 audit samples that were within park boundaries) (n=50)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only/Tree Class 1,2)*

403 ——— 470 ——— 537 Audit Volume (14.3% sampling error)

467 ——— 520 ——— 573 Inventory Volume (map label attributes predicted in VDYP) (10.2% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95%

$$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.90$$

1.0 ↓

0.80 ——— 0.90 ——— 1.01

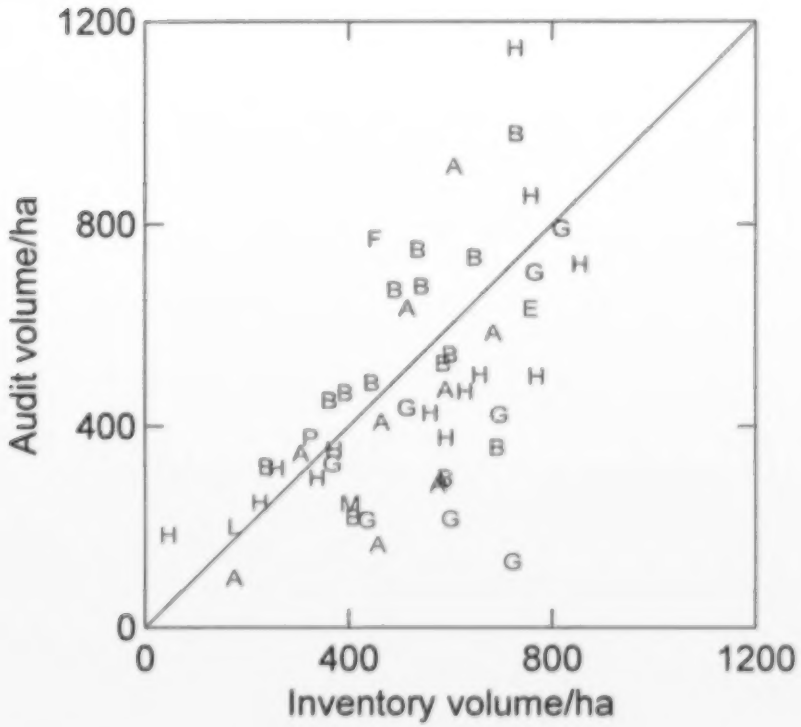
** Since 1.0 is within the interval, the ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the audit volume and the inventory volume.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for all sample polygons
mean difference = -50.346 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.076
**since p-value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG G.
(for GTG G: mean difference = -210.013; p-value = 0.021; n=8)

5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.590
p value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
.: correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
(including 3 samples that were within park boundaries)
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Audit Volume (Kozak) vs. Inventory Volume (Predicted in VDYP) (with 4 extra volume samples from the immature audit data) (n=51)

1. Average Volumes/ha and Confidence Interval @ 95% *(Utilization level : 17.5 cm + net merch. less decay only/Tree Class 1,2)*

373 ——— 440 ——— 508 Audit Volume (15.3% sampling error)

435 ——— 492 ——— 548 Inventory Volume (map label attributes predicted in VDYP) (11.5% sampling error)

2. Ratio Analysis : Ratio of Means @95%

$R = \frac{\text{average audit volume}}{\text{average inventory volume}} = 0.90$

1.0 ↓

0.79 ——— 0.90 ——— 1.00

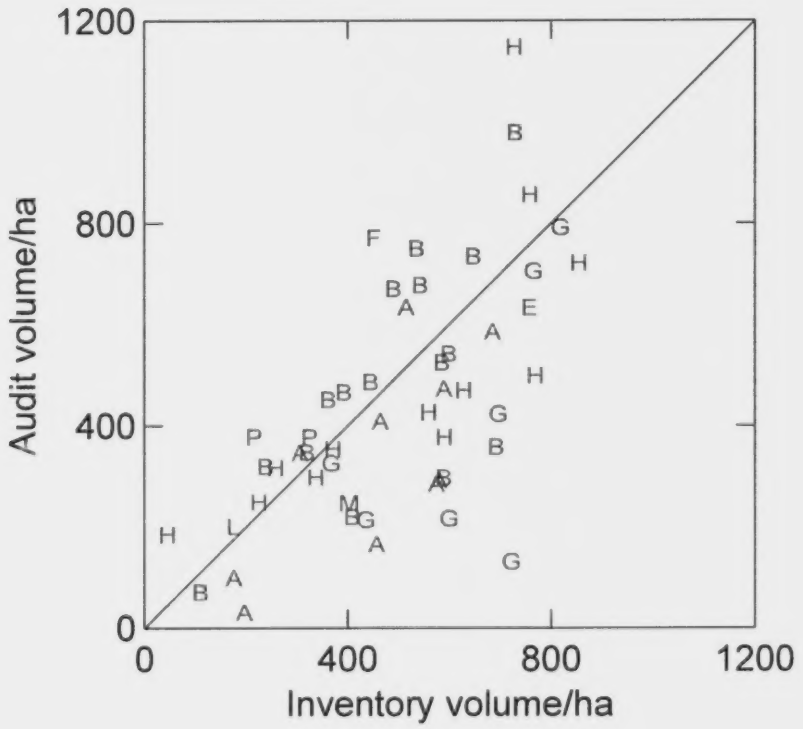
* *Since 1.0 is within the interval, the ratio indicates that there is no significant difference between the audit volume and the inventory volume.*

3. Paired T Test @ 95% (α=0.05) for all sample polygons
mean difference = -51.155 m^3/ha
p - value for mean difference = 0.061
**since p-value > α, the difference is not significant*

4. Paired T Test @ 95% for all sample polygons by map label GTG
There was a significant difference within GTG A and G.
(for GTG A: mean difference = -123.610; p-value = 0.021; n=10
for GTG G: mean difference = -228.857; p-value = 0.027; n=7)

5. Correlation @ 95% (α=0.05) for all samples
Correlation co-efficient r = 0.639
p value for correlation co-efficient < 0.001
.: correlation is significant

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Audit Volume vs. Inventory Volume (by GTG)
(with 4 extra volume samples from the immature audit data)
(Tree Class 1 & 2, less decay only, 17.5cm + dbh)



Letter symbols correspond to map label GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Inventory Classification Assessment

- **49%** of the growth type groups from the inventory (ie. map labels) matched the audit growth type groups.
- the growth type group distribution for the 47 inventory audit samples is as follows (the bold italic entries on the diagonal in the table indicate a GTG match between the audit and the inventory):

Audit GTG	***Inventory GTG (columns)***										
(rows)	A	B	E	F	G	H	J	L	M	P	*total*
A	***3***	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
B	6	***9***	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	19
E	0	0	***1***	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
F	0	0	0	***1***	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
G	0	2	0	0	***0***	2	0	0	0	0	4
H	0	1	0	0	2	***9***	0	0	0	0	12
J	0	0	0	0	0	1	***0***	0	0	0	1
L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	***0***	1	0	1
M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	***0***	0	0
P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	***0***	0
total	9	14	1	1	7	12	0	1	1	1	**47**

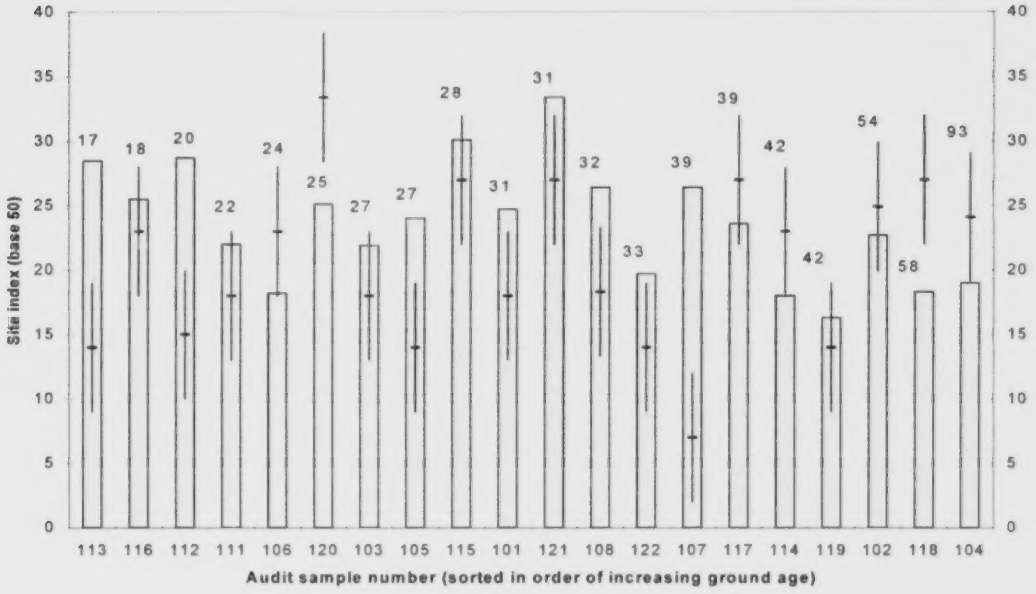
Letter symbols correspond to GTG's as follows:

A	*Fd, Fd Decid.*	H	*B, BH, BS*
B	*FdCw and FdYc, FdH, FdS*	J	*SF, SH (and SC), SB*
E	*Cw or Yc, CwFd, CwL, CwPy, CwPw, CwPl, CwDecid, CwH*	L	*Pl or Pa*
F	*H, HDecid.*	M	*Pl F, Pl S (and Pl B)*
G	*HFd, HL, HPy, HPw, HPl, HCw, HB, HS*	P	*Dr Decid., Mb, E, At Decid.*

Immature Site Index and Classification Assessment

- **40%** of the growth type group assignments from the inventory (ie. map labels) matched the corresponding audit growth type group assignment.

SOO TSA Inventory Audit:
Comparison of Inventory and Audit Site Index for Immature Samples



Notes:

- shaded bars correspond to ***audit site index*** values
- tick marks on vertical lines represent ***inventory site index*** (vertical lines have arbitrarily been set at ±5m around site index)
- numbers at the top of the bars corresponds to ground total age
- audit site indices use BH age and growth intercept SI where available (from SiteTool)
- inventory site index was within 5 m of the audit site index for 9 out of the 20 samples (inventory site index was more than 5m higher than the audit site index for 3 samples and more than 5m lower than the audit SI for 8 samples)